

AMENDMENT ENTRY

Amendment of 5/23/11 has been entered. Claims 1-15 are pending And are under consideration.

The change entered in claim 1 is deemed supported by spec. p 8, lines 1-3; By Intermediate 4 at spec. p 18; and by Example 1.

OBJECTION(S)/REJECTION(S) OF RECORD WITHDRAWN

The amendment has overcome previously stated issues as follows:

The “new” 103 prior art rejection of claim(s) 1-10, 12, 13 and 15 based upon Gonzales et al (6,025,158). The examiner has no idea what was “New” in the “New Ground of Rejection” stated by the BPAI on 3/24/11. In any event, the amendment of claim 1, so that the polymer is not “contained” in the non-disulphide bridge but, rather, is “covalently attached to” the non-disulphide bridge, has overcome the 103 rejection since Gonzales et al do not teach or suggest such an embodiment.

The 103 prior art rejection of claim(s) 1, 13 and 14 based upon Gonzales et al in view of Barbanti et al (5,436,154). Since the 103 rejection over Gonzales et al, alone has been overcome, the rejection that further depends upon a secondary reference falls.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dorren Y. Trujillo on 7/18/11.

Amended claim 2 as follows:

In Claim 2, line 3 deleted "containing" and inserted therefor --having attached thereto--.

CONTACTS

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David A. Saunders, whose telephone number is 571-272-0849. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thu. from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm and on alternate Fridays. The examiner's supervisor, Ram Shukla, can be reached on 571-272-0735. The fax number where this application is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Typed 7/18/11 DAS

/David A Saunders/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1644